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Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017**

Part III
International justice and law

Section 8
Legal affairs

(Programme 6 of the biennial programme plan for the period 2016-2017)***

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Note: The following abbreviations are used in tables and charts: ASG, Assistant Secretary-General; GS, General Service; OA, other assessed; OL, Other level; PL, Principal level; RB, regular budget; USG, Under-Secretary-General; XB, extrabudgetary.

* Reissued for technical reasons on 5 May 2015.

** A summary of the approved programme budget will be issued as A/70/6/Add.1.

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*** The present report does not contain an annex on follow-up action taken to implement relevant recommendations of the oversight bodies, as no such recommendations are outstanding.

Overview

Table 8.1 **Financial resources**

(United States dollars)

Appropriation for 2014-2015	47 986 900
New mandates and inter-component changes	1 847 300
Changes in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264 (further reductions)	(284 400)
Changes in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264 (efficiencies)	(35 200)
Total resource change	1 527 700
Proposal of the Secretary-General for 2016-2017[a]	49 514 600

[a] At 2014-2015 revised rates.

Table 8.2 **Post resources**

	Number	*Level*
Regular budget		
Approved for the biennium 2014-2015	145	1 USG, 1 ASG, 4 D-2, 7 D-1, 19 P-5, 22 P-4, 21 P-3, 14 P-2/1, 11 GS (PL), 45 GS (OL)
Proposed for the biennium 2016-2017	145	1 USG, 1 ASG, 4 D-2, 7 D-1, 19 P-5, 22 P-4, 21 P-3, 14 P-2/1, 11 GS (PL), 45 GS (OL)

Overall orientation

8.1 The overall purpose of the programme is to support the accomplishment of the objectives of the United Nations by providing advice to the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations and by promoting among Member States a better understanding of and respect for the principles and norms of international law.

8.2 The mandate for the programme derives from the principal decision-making organs of the United Nations in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the Statute of the International Court of Justice.

8.3 The substantive responsibility for the programme is in the Office of Legal Affairs. It provides a unified central legal service for the Secretariat and the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations; supports the development of international justice; contributes to the progressive development and codification of international public and trade law and the strengthening and development of the international legal order for the seas and oceans; registers and publishes treaties, and performs the depositary functions of the Secretary-General.

8.4 The Office will provide legal advice and services, on request, to the decision-making organs of the United Nations and its Member States. It will aim to strengthen respect within the United Nations for the rule of law in international relations, in particular observance of the Charter and the resolutions, decisions, regulations, rules and treaties emanating from the Organization. As appropriate, attention will be given to incorporating a gender perspective into the work of the programme, including in the advice provided by the Office.

8.5 The Office will carry out its activities in cooperation with other departments and offices of the Secretariat, entities of the United Nations system and entities external to the United Nations,

including treaty organizations, intergovernmental, interregional, regional and national organizations, non-governmental organizations and academic communities. Such collaboration and cooperation include the following:

(a) Coordination of interdepartmental activities, liaison with United Nations organs dealing with legal matters, offices away from Headquarters and legal advisers or liaison officers assigned to field missions or other Secretariat units;

(b) Representation at and convening of meetings with legal advisers of the United Nations system and coordination of institutional arrangements for the specialized agencies and related organizations on matters of common concern;

(c) Representation of the Secretary-General and the Legal Counsel at meetings and conferences convened by the United Nations or sponsored by Governments, intergovernmental organizations and other international institutions.

8.6 The Office will continue to face changing demands in a number of areas of its work. It will also aim to carry out its functions in the most efficient and modern way possible through the best use of the latest information and communications technology.

8.7 The Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs supports the Legal Counsel in the timely discharge of his responsibilities and in the management of the Office of Legal Affairs, which includes monitoring the resources of the Office to address changing organizational priorities and increased mandates, as well as assisting in managing the Office as effectively as possible. The Office of the Under-Secretary-General supports the Legal Counsel in formulating recommendations to the Secretary-General in interdepartmental and inter-agency bodies, in coordinating the United Nations Legal Advisers Network and in providing legal advice to high-level inter-agency bodies. It monitors the implementation of the programme of work and acts as the focal point for information on all aspects of the work of the Office of Legal Affairs. It also coordinates interdepartmental activities and consults and negotiates with other departments, offices, subsidiary bodies and related agencies of the United Nations system on matters of mutual concern. In addition, the Office of the Under-Secretary-General coordinates the Legal Counsel's public outreach on behalf of the Office of Legal Affairs, including through the drafting of statements made by the Legal Counsel in public forums.

8.8 Subprogramme 1 is implemented by the Office of the Legal Counsel, which will continue to provide legal services to the United Nations system as a whole. The Office seeks to provide qualitative and timely legal advice and assistance to facilitate the functioning of the United Nations, both at Headquarters and in the field, in accordance with international law and the legal regime of the United Nations. It will continue to provide advice at meetings of the political organs of the United Nations, to protect the privileges and immunities of the Organization and to ensure that appropriate legal instruments are finalized in respect of the activities of the United Nations. The demand for legal services provided by the Office has increased, in particular with regard to support for the peacekeeping operations of the Organization, support for international and United Nations-assisted courts and tribunals, advice on matters involving the privileges and immunities of the Organization and its officials and experts on mission and support in respect of the work of the Department of Political Affairs, mainly related to special political missions, as well as with regard to constitutional and procedural issues.

8.9 Subprogramme 2 is managed by the General Legal Division, which provides general legal services and support to United Nations organs and programmes. The Division seeks to provide timely and effective legal advice, assistance and services to units of the Organization (e.g., Headquarters, regional commissions, other United Nations offices away from Headquarters and peacekeeping and other missions) and of the separately funded subsidiary organs of the United Nations in order to

protect the legal interests of the Organization and to prevent or minimize legal liabilities arising from the activities and operations of the Organization. Demands on the Division for legal services continue to increase, including with regard to support for peacekeeping and similar missions of the Organization, support for internal investigations and support for the development and implementation of reform policies. In particular, the Division has experienced heavy demand for legal services in connection with the system for the administration of justice, as requirements for legal counselling and representation to meet the level of activity of the system have increased. In addition, the Division will continue to assist the Organization in the design and implementation of innovative legal arrangements for meeting the logistical requirements of the Organization's peacekeeping, political and humanitarian operations, including, as required, through partnerships with Governments, other international intergovernmental organizations, civil society and the business sector. To enhance the Organization's accountability efforts, the Division provides support to national investigations and refers credible allegations that a crime has been committed to Member States. The Division will continue to defend the Organization from claims by contractors and third parties arising from the activities and operations of the United Nations with the aim of minimizing the Organization's legal liabilities. Finally, in response to recommendations made by both internal and external auditors, the Division will continue to work to improve the Organization's procurement practices through the development and improvement of standard forms of contract and related instruments as well as reform of the policies and procedures for such procurement activities.

8.10 Subprogramme 3 is implemented by the Codification Division, which plays an increasing role in the substantive servicing of a number of legal bodies, including the preparation of analytical reports for the chairpersons of various working groups on legal instruments. The substantive work of the Division has increased significantly as a result of the increasing demands by the International Law Commission for research projects to be conducted by the Division, including proposal papers for new topics, comprehensive studies on new topics to guide the Commission's work throughout its consideration of the topics and extensive research and legal advice to special rapporteurs. The Division is responsible for the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, which has provided the foundation for United Nations efforts to contribute to better knowledge of international law as a means of strengthening international peace and security, and promoting friendly relations and cooperation among States. Work under the Programme of Assistance has grown significantly owing to the increasing demand for international law training and research materials from both developing countries and developed countries. The Division performs significant functions regarding the International Law Fellowship Programme and the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law. The Division has revitalized the regional courses to respond to the increasing demand for the delivery of international law training in an efficient and cost-effective way by identifying venues where the courses can be conducted on an annual basis if there is sufficient funding. The Division has created the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law to provide additional international law training through the Internet free of charge to an unlimited number of individuals and institutions in countries around the world. The Division also prepares a number of legal publications as well as numerous study books in hard copy and electronic format for its training courses. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/117, the Office of Legal Affairs will, under subprogramme 3, organize regional courses in international law for Africa, for Asia and the Pacific and for Latin America and the Caribbean in each year of the biennium 2016-2017, and continue and further develop the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law. Those additional activities will entail additional resource requirements in the amount of $1,813,500.

8.11 Subprogramme 4 is implemented by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea. The mandate of the subprogramme derives from the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (Fish Stocks Agreement) and relevant General Assembly resolutions. Increased activities are anticipated in numerous areas of work during the biennium 2016-2017. Member States expect expeditious consideration of the submissions to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf and issuance of recommendations in view of the important national interests involved. In view of the large number of submissions by coastal States to the Commission considered in the order in which they were received, the Commission is expected to continue to meet in New York in three sessions of seven weeks each, for a total of 21 weeks per year, as noted in General Assembly resolution 69/245. Considerably increased activities are also expected in relation to the requirements for servicing of and follow-up to the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction. Furthermore, the Division will be responding to requirements for the servicing of and follow-up to the Meetings of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, including the elections of members of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea and the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, and requirements relating to the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea. Increased activities are also expected in connection with the discharge of the responsibilities of the Legal Counsel and the Division as focal point for UN-Oceans, in accordance with paragraph 279 of General Assembly resolution 68/70 and the terms of reference of UN-Oceans, particularly in view of the need to ensure coherence in the United Nations system on issues related to ocean affairs and the law of the sea. Increased activities are also expected in the area of sustainable fisheries. The resumed Review Conference on the Fish Stocks Agreement will be held in the first half of 2016 and a two-day workshop on bottom fisheries in the second half of 2016. The Division will also be responding to requirements for the preparation of reports in accordance with paragraphs 41 and 164 of General Assembly resolution 69/109. As requested by the Assembly in paragraph 210 of its resolution 65/37 A, the Division will continue to carry out secretariat functions relating to the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects, and its established institutions, such as the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process and its bureau, the Group of Experts and the pool of experts. The Division will be expected to continue to contribute to the implementation of a post-2015 development agenda by promoting the sustainable development of oceans and addressing the impacts of climate change on oceans and ocean acidification. Given the increased attention to matters related to oceans and law of the sea, more capacity-building activities aimed at assisting States in the implementation of the Convention and related agreements are expected to be requested by Member States, including in relation to the delineation of the outer limits of their continental shelf, as well as their participation in ocean-related processes of the General Assembly. Such activities include programmes of technical assistance, fellowships and carrying out the mandates of the trust funds. More activities are also expected in providing support to the Secretary-General and advice to various departments and offices within the Secretariat.

8.12 With respect to subprogramme 5, the International Trade Law Division will continue to provide substantive services to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) and its working groups with a view to expanding the body of uniform legal standards for worldwide use and to preparing the future legislative work programme of the Commission. Following the Commission's request to the Division to develop proposals for work on legal and regulatory aspects of microfinance, the topic of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises was included in the six subject matters assigned to UNCITRAL working groups. This is a rapidly

expanding field globally, and the work will draw in part on the Commission's experience in other areas, including electronic commerce, secured transactions, dispute resolution and insolvency. As the substantive secretariat of the only United Nations body with a mandate for modernization of the legal framework for a globalized economy, the Division will respond to the increasing demand for new international trade law standards and the increasing reliance by Member States, in particular developing countries, on technical assistance from UNCITRAL experts in capacity-building. Better understanding of the importance of trade law in the overall promotion of the rule of law and an enhanced perception of treaty obligations incumbent on Member States for the uniform interpretation of a number of UNCITRAL standards have also resulted in an escalation of demand for assistance from the Division. The Division will continue to explore a range of options for responding to the growing need for uniform interpretation of UNCITRAL texts, which is indispensable for their effective implementation. That objective is currently being addressed through the Secretariat's continuing work on its case law on UNCITRAL texts (CLOUT) initiative. The growing scope of the work, increased inflow of new cases, editing of abstracts and management of the CLOUT database and website constitute a large and growing portion of the workload of the Division. The Division is responsible for ongoing work with Member States in the promotion and implementation of the many UNCITRAL texts that have been developed to date (which, as of 2014, comprised 47 international trade law standards, including 10 international conventions and 9 model laws). Strengthened coordination between international organizations active in the field of international trade law will also be sought, consistent with the mandate of UNCITRAL as the core legal body in the United Nations system in the field of international trade law.

8.13 Subprogramme 6 is implemented by the Treaty Section. The Section will discharge the functions of the Secretary-General as depositary of more than 560 multilateral treaties. It will promote wider participation in the multilateral treaty framework, including through two treaty events at United Nations Headquarters. It will register, file and record, and publish in the United Nations *Treaty Series*, a growing number of treaties pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations and the General Assembly regulations to give effect to Article 102. In order for the Treaty Section to respond to the ever-increasing needs of Member States and intergovernmental organizations and other end users for timely, efficient and user-friendly access to treaties and related actions deposited with the Secretary-General, including their latest status, and to registered and filed and recorded treaties in published and online format, as well as other treaty-related information, and to raise the efficiency of computerized work processes within the Treaty Section, the Treaty Information and Publication System will require continued monitoring and maintenance and deployment of critical operational upgrades throughout the biennium. The Treaty Section will also continue to provide assistance to States on legal and technical aspects of their participation in treaties deposited with the Secretary-General and the registration of treaties, including through development of capacity in treaty law at Headquarters and to a lesser extent at the regional level. As the only substantive unit within the United Nations system dedicated to treaty law and practice, the Treaty Section is very much relied upon to respond to increasing and time-sensitive requests for legal advice and assistance on various aspects of treaty law and practice, including the drafting of final clauses, received from Member States and intergovernmental organizations within and outside the United Nations system, as well as requests received from treaty secretariats, which act as the substantive secretariats of the treaties deposited with the Secretary-General. There is also an increased need for the provision of training and capacity-development in treaty law and practice to Member States and intergovernmental organizations at the regional level and at Headquarters, and for raising awareness of and participation in treaties. The importance of assisting States in the registration of treaties under Article 102 of the Charter is widely recognized. The Treaty Section will strive to continue its high level of support to States.

Overview of resources

8.14 The overall resources proposed for the biennium 2016-2017 for this section amount to $49,514,600 before recosting, reflecting a net increase of $1,527,700 (or 3.2 per cent) compared with the appropriation for 2014-2015. Resource changes result from: (a) new mandates and inter-component changes; (b) resource changes in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264 (further reductions); and (c) resource changes in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264 (efficiencies). The proposed reductions in line with resolution 69/264 will not affect full and effective mandate implementation.

8.15 A significant portion of the resource increase results from financing by the regular budget of activities of the Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/117. There is also a smaller resource increase related to the preparation of reports on sustainable fisheries as mandated by the Assembly in resolution 69/109.

8.16 Resource changes in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264 reflect proposals for freezing recruitment against established posts and, to a lesser extent, reductions in non-post resources that are anticipated in 2016-2017.

8.17 The proposed reductions will be influenced by the future impact of the deployment of Umoja (Foundation and Extension 1) by the end of 2015. As it is too early to determine the specific future impact of Umoja, the proposed reductions, while firm in financial terms, are flexible in operational terms. The flexibility means that the specific composition of the post freezes, and the reorganization of functions and roles as a result of the freezes, will only be determined during 2016-2017, when the impact of Umoja becomes more clear.

8.18 The distribution of resources is shown in tables 8.3 to 8.5 below.

Table 8.3 Financial resources by component

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

			Resource changes								
	2012-2013 expenditure	*2014-2015 appropriation*	*Technical adjustments (non-recurrent biennial provision of posts)*	*New mandates and inter-component changes*	*Further reductions in line with resolution 69/264*	*Efficiencies in line with resolution 69/264*	*Total*	*Percentage*	*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2016-2017 estimate*
A. Policymaking organs											
1. International Law Commission	2 573.3	2 896.3	–	–	(32.4)	–	(32.4)	(1.1)	2 863.9	133.1	2 997.0
2. United Nations Commission on International Trade Law	418.7	374.6	–	–	(28.8)	–	(28.8)	(7.7)	345.8	13.8	359.6
Subtotal, A	**2 992.0**	**3 270.9**	**–**	**–**	**(61.2)**	**–**	**(61.2)**	**(1.9)**	**3 209.7**	**146.9**	**3 356.6**
B. Executive direction and management	2 217.9	2 139.6	–	–	(10.9)	–	(10.9)	(0.5)	2 128.7	66.9	2 195.6
C. Programme of work											
1. Provision of legal services to the United Nations as a whole	3 293.3	3 813.6	–	–	(14.7)	–	(14.7)	(0.4)	3 798.9	107.1	3 906.0
2. General legal services provided to United Nations organs and programmes	7 003.9	7 273.7	–	–	(2.9)	–	(2.9)	–	7 270.8	192.9	7 463.7
3. Progressive development and codification of international law	7 240.0	6 784.6	–	1 822.4	(4.6)	–	1 817.8	26.8	8 602.4	275.5	8 877.9
4. Law of the sea and ocean affairs	8 644.1	9 788.9	–	76.2	(10.4)	–	65.8	0.7	9 854.7	272.7	10 127.4
5. Progressive harmonization, modernization and unification of the law of international trade	6 606.1	6 518.1	–	–	(13.0)	–	(13.0)	(0.2)	6 505.1	20.7	6 525.8
6. Custody, registration and publication of treaties	6 873.2	6 412.5	–	60.5	(166.7)	–	(106.2)	(1.7)	6 306.3	205.9	6 512.2
Subtotal, C	**39 660.6**	**40 591.4**	**–**	**1 959.1**	**(212.3)**	**–**	**1 746.8**	**4.3**	**42 338.2**	**1 074.8**	**43 413.0**
D. Programme support	2 162.7	1 985.0	–	(111.8)	–	(35.2)	(147.0)	(7.4)	1 838.0	66.7	1 904.7
Subtotal, 1	**47 033.2**	**47 986.9**	**–**	**1 847.3**	**(284.4)**	**(35.2)**	**1 527.7**	**3.2**	**49 514.6**	**1 355.3**	**50 869.9**

(2) *Other assessed*

	2012-2013 expenditure	2014-2015 estimate	2016-2017 estimate
A. Policymaking organs	–	–	–
B. Executive direction and management	–	–	–
C. Programme of work	6 684.9	7 279.9	7 739.8
D. Programme support	–	–	–
Subtotal, 2	**6 684.9**	**7 279.9**	**7 739.8**

(3) *Extrabudgetary*

	2012-2013 expenditure	2014-2015 estimate	2016-2017 estimate
A. Policymaking organs	–	–	–
B. Executive direction and management	–	–	–
C. Programme of work	7 001.2	9 935.2	8 310.5
D. Programme support	144.6	187.2	187.4
Subtotal, 3	**7 145.8**	**10 122.4**	**8 497.9**
Total	**60 863.9**	**65 389.2**	**67 107.6**

Table 8.4 **Post resources**

	Established regular budget		Temporary						Total	
			Regular budget		Other assessed[a]		Extrabudgetary[b]			
Category	2014-2015	2016-2017	2014-2015	2016-2017	2014-2015	2016-2017	2014-2015	2016-2017	2014-2015	2016-2017
Professional and higher										
USG	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1
ASG	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1
D-2	4	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	4
D-1	7	7	–	–	–	–	2	2	9	9
P-5	19	19	–	–	5	5	1	1	25	25
P-4/3	43	43	–	–	8	11	2	2	53	56
P-2/1	14	14	–	–	1	1	1	1	16	16
Subtotal	**89**	**89**	**–**	**–**	**14**	**17**	**6**	**6**	**109**	**112**
General Service										
Principal level	11	11	–	–	–	–	–	–	11	11
Other level	45	45	–	–	2	2	5	5	52	52
Subtotal	**56**	**56**	**–**	**–**	**2**	**2**	**5**	**5**	**63**	**63**
Total	**145**	**145**	**–**	**–**	**16**	**19**	**11**	**11**	**172**	**175**

[a] Funded from the support account for peacekeeping operations.
[b] Funded from the various extrabudgetary trust funds managed by the Office of Legal Affairs.

Table 8.5 **Distribution of resources by component**

(Percentage)

Component	*Regular budget*	*Other assessed*	*Extrabudgetary*
A. Policymaking organs			
1. International Law Commission	5.8	–	–
2. United Nations Commission on International Trade Law	0.7	–	–
Subtotal, A	**6.5**	–	–
B. Executive direction and management	4.3	–	–
C. Programme of work			
1. Provision of legal services to the United Nations as a whole	7.7	24.8	16.7
2. General legal services provided to United Nations organs and programmes	14.7	75.2	30.1
3. Progressive development and codification of international law	17.4	–	2.0
4. Law of the Sea and Ocean Affairs	19.9	–	41.3
5. Progressive harmonization, modernization and unification of the law of international trade	13.1	–	7.7
6. Custody, registration and publication of treaties	12.7	–	–
Subtotal, C	**85.5**	**100.0**	**97.8**
D. Programme support	3.7	–	2.2
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

New mandates and inter-component changes

8.19 Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/117, the Office of Legal Affairs will, under subprogramme 3, organize regional courses in international law for Africa, for Asia and the Pacific and for Latin America and the Caribbean in each year of the biennium 2016-2017, and continue and further develop the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law. Further, pursuant to Assembly resolution 69/109, the Office will, under subprogramme 4, hire consultants to provide information and analysis on relevant technical and scientific issues that will be used for the report to the Review Conference and the report on bottom fisheries. These additional activities entail additional resource requirements in the amount of $1,847,300.

8.20 Redistribution and realignment of resources are proposed mainly from programme support to subprogrammes 4 and 6, primarily for contractual services that relate to the decreased costs of centralized information technology services and the reallocation of those resources to subprogrammes that are recipients of those services.

Resource changes in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264 (further reductions)

8.21 Resource changes of $284,400 are proposed in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264, under posts ($164,700) and non-posts ($119,700). The decrease of $164,700 under posts reflects the proposal to freeze recruitment against established posts in subprogramme 6.

8.22 The proposed decrease of $119,700 under non-post resources mainly relates to travel of staff, other staff costs, contractual services and supplies and materials, taking into account the anticipated impact of the approved standards of accommodation for air travel and further efficiencies that the Office of Legal Affairs plans to bring about in 2016-2017.

Resource changes in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264 (efficiencies)

8.23 Resource changes of $35,200 are proposed in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264, resulting from a decrease under posts ($159,700) offset by an increase under non-posts ($124,500). The decrease of $159,700 under posts reflects proposals for freezing recruitment against established posts in the programme support component.

8.24 The proposed increase of $124,500 under non-post resources primarily relates to increased requirements for general temporary assistance to cover peak workload periods.

Other assessed and extrabudgetary resources

8.25 The projected level of other assessed resources would amount to $7,739,800. The resource requirements would provide for 19 posts (5 P-5, 9 P-4, 2 P-3, 1 P-2 and 2 General Service (Other level)) for the provision of legal support and assistance to peacekeeping operations. The projected level represents an increase of approximately $459,900 that is primarily attributable to the proposed establishment of one P-4 Legal Officer post for the General Legal Division. The projected requirements also provide for the proposed conversion of two general temporary assistance positions of Legal Officer (1 P-4 and 1 P-3) to posts in the General Legal Division, to support its work in the area of administration of justice and legal support for management, as reflected in the report of the Secretary-General on the budget for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 (see A/69/750, paras. 600-604).

8.26 The projected level of extrabudgetary resources would amount to $8,497,900. Those resources would support various activities related to, inter alia, the provision of legal support to extrabudgetary structures of the United Nations system; support for international trade law through symposiums on international trade law; assistance in the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law; reducing the backlog in the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*; and fellowship programmes in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea. The extrabudgetary resources would also be utilized to assist developing States in attending meetings of the Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea; to assist members of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf from developing States in participating in meetings; to assist developing States in preparing submissions to the Commission and conducting seminars on international trade law; to assist States in settling disputes through the International Court of Justice and the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea; and to support the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects. Through its extrabudgetary resources, the Office of Legal Affairs will be supported by 11 posts (2 D-1, 1 P-5, 1 P-4, 1 P-3, 1 P-2 and 5 General Service (Other level)). It is anticipated that the level of extrabudgetary resources will decrease by $1,624,500 from the 2014-2015 estimates of $10,122,400. The projections with respect to extrabudgetary activities are based on the projected level of contributions for the biennium 2016-2017.

8.27 The continued availability of other assessed contributions and extrabudgetary resources will enable the Office to provide the expected level of legal advisory services to peacekeeping operations and extrabudgetary structures of the United Nations system and to continue carrying out the technical cooperation activities in the areas of international law, law of the sea and international trade law.

Other information

8.28 The Office has taken action to promote accountability by increasing awareness of personal accountability among all staff. In order to increase awareness of personal accountability, the Office

has put in place monitoring mechanisms to ensure that all staff undertake mandatory training programmes in the areas of ethics and integrity. Further training opportunities have been granted to staff to enhance their professional development in the field of international law and related areas, such as conflict mediation and preventive diplomacy. Additionally, the Office has subscribed to professional legal training institutions where staff can frequently engage in practical courses on various legal subjects related to ongoing issues in the course of their functions. With respect to performance development, the Office closely monitors the timely completion of the performance appraisal system and is near full compliance in that regard. In order to ensure progress on accountability, the Office has sought to address performance reporting, self-evaluation and the range of goals and objectives contained in the Under-Secretary-General's annual compact with the Secretary-General. The Office has made a concerted effort to include the work of the entire office in the objectives set out in the compact. Additionally, the Office has employed a centralized and coordinated approach so that, in the area of the compact addressing the responsible stewardship of resources, the performance measures which have been set are rigorously pursued. In this respect, the Office has been successful in meeting or exceeding many of the targets set for it. In the area of timely issuance of official documentation to intergovernmental bodies and General Assembly committees, the Office constantly monitors its adherence to expected standards and consistently exceeds targets. The Office also, as a matter of course, meets its obligations under the financial disclosure programme. Additionally, the Office has invested in creating templates for legal instruments, such as contracts, memorandums of understanding and other legal agreements, which are shared as standard model documents to be used in business negotiations and transactions. The standard instruments are not intended to substitute for specific or more detailed legal advice for more complex scenarios.

8.29 Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 58/269, resources identified for monitoring and evaluation would amount to $587,600, of which $542,600 represents 28.5 work-months of staff in the Professional category and 11.9 work-months of staff in the General Service category. Of the staffing resources, $391,900 will be funded from the regular budget and $150,700 will be funded from the support account for peacekeeping operations. Of the non-post resources, $25,000 will be funded from the regular budget and $20,000 will be funded from extrabudgetary resources. Monitoring and internal evaluation activities will be regularly carried out throughout the biennium at the subprogramme level to continuously assess the programme of work against: (a) the satisfaction of the recipients of the legal advisory services; (b) the effective reduction of the legal liabilities of the Organization; (c) the adequacy of resources to address emerging mandated tasks, as well as priorities; (d) the effectiveness of coordination achieved within the United Nations system in the area of international trade law and the impact of legal standards developed by UNCITRAL; and (e) the efficiency of internal processes. Self-evaluation activities enable the Office to monitor ongoing levels and types of legal claims and liabilities faced by the United Nations and to take steps in defending the Organization's legal interests to better advise offices, funds and programmes on how to minimize such liabilities. An evaluation initiative begun in 2014, in which the Office works with the Bureau of the Sixth Committee to draw lessons learned from each session and make improvements to working methods will continue. Expected benefits include increased opportunities for intersessional contacts, improved communication to and among delegations and regular briefings of delegates by the Secretariat. On the basis of feedback from stakeholders, during the 2014-2015 biennium the Office has organized seminars regarding universal standards on a regional basis. This has allowed for greater involvement of local expertise, lower travel costs and better reflection of local circumstances in the global law-making process. Self-evaluation also enables the Office to carry out central legal liaison functions, such as disseminating legal lessons learned from current cases and in developing or enhancing legal instruments.

8.30 The Legal Counsel was designated by the General Assembly as the focal point for UN-Oceans, the inter-agency coordination mechanism on ocean issues, in 2013. Notably, the Office is facilitating the development of an inventory of member organizations' activities and mandates to assist in identifying possible areas for collaboration and synergies. Furthermore, and for the purpose of ensuring that the legal framework contained in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and its implementing agreements is uniformly implemented, and to avoid duplication of efforts and overlaps, the Office cooperates with competent United Nations agencies, international intergovernmental organizations and entities at the subregional, regional and global levels, in particular the International Maritime Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme and the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and regional fisheries bodies. An important example of such cooperation can be seen in the preparation of the first global marine integrated assessment of the state of the marine environment under the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socio-Economic Aspects. The Office also continued to improve coordination and communication among United Nations system legal advisers and legal liaison officers to promote system-wide legal coherence, including achieving a more concerted provision of legal advice within the system. To that end, the Office organized six meetings of the legal advisers of the specialized agencies, funds and programmes and the field legal officers in the peacekeeping operations and the special political missions.

8.31 The issue of publications as a part of the programme of work has been reviewed in the context of each subprogramme. It is anticipated that recurrent and non-recurrent publications will be issued as summarized in table 8.6 and as described in the output information for each subprogramme.

Table 8.6 **Summary of publications**

	2012-2013 actual			*2014-2015 estimate*			*2016-2017 estimate*		
	Print	*Electronic*	*Print and electronic*	*Print*	*Electronic*	*Print and electronic*	*Print*	*Electronic*	*Print and electronic*
Recurrent	19	22	157	14	31	133	14	29	135
Non-recurrent	3	5	12	5	5	9	5	10	7
Total	**22**	**27**	**169**	**19**	**36**	**142**	**19**	**39**	**142**

A. Policymaking organs

Table 8.7 **Resource requirements: policymaking organs**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017 (before recosting)*	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017*
Regular budget				
International Law Commission	2 896.3	2 863.9	–	–
United Nations Commission on International Trade Law	374.6	345.8	–	–
Total	**3 270.9**	**3 209.7**	**–**	**–**

1. International Law Commission

Resource requirements (before recosting): $2,863,900

8.32 Pursuant to Article 13, paragraph 1 (a), of the Charter of the United Nations, the General Assembly, by its resolution 174 (II), established the International Law Commission and approved its statute. The Commission has as its objective the promotion of the progressive development of international law and its codification. It consists of 34 members who are persons of recognized competence in international law. The statute of the Commission does not specify the duration of its sessions. Unless otherwise decided by the Assembly, the Commission normally holds an annual 12-week session in Geneva and reports to the Assembly, which provides guidance to the Commission on its programme of work through annual resolutions on the reports of the Commission. As of 2000, as mandated by the Assembly, the Commission holds split annual sessions up to the total of 12 weeks. The Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs provides the substantive servicing of the Commission.

8.33 The distribution of resources for the International Law Commission is shown in table 8.8 below.

Table 8.8 **Resource requirements: International Law Commission**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017 (before recosting)*	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017*
Regular budget				
Non-post	2 896.3	2 863.9	–	–
Total	**2 896.3**	**2 863.9**	**–**	**–**

8.34 The amount of $2,863,900 covers the costs of: (a) attendance by the Chairperson and 33 members at the annual session in Geneva; (b) attendance by the Chairperson at the regular sessions of the General Assembly during the consideration of the reports of the Commission; (c) travel of staff to service the sessions of the Commission; and (d) non-staff compensation payable at the rate set by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/272. The amount would not cover the cost of attendance by the Chairperson or another representative of the Commission at the sessions of the four regional legal intergovernmental bodies (two weeks each) with which the Commission, pursuant to its statute, has established links of cooperation. The reduced requirements under travel of staff take into account the anticipated impact of the approved standards of accommodation for air travel, proposed in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264.

2. United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

Resource requirements (before recosting): $345,800

8.35 UNCITRAL, comprising 60 Member States, is charged, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI), with the improvement and harmonization of international trade law, which corresponds to subprogramme 5. The Commission carries out its tasks, with the assistance of the International Trade Law Division as its secretariat, in one annual meeting of up to four weeks' duration and in six working group meetings on specialized topics of up to 12 weeks' duration per year.

8.36 The distribution of resources for UNCITRAL is shown in table 8.9 below.

Table 8.9 **Resource requirements: United Nations Commission on International Trade Law**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017 (before recosting)*	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017*
Regular budget				
Non-post	374.6	345.8	–	–
Total	**374.6**	**345.8**	–	–

8.37 The amount of $345,800 would provide for the travel of representatives, travel of staff and contractual services. The reduced requirements under travel of staff take into account the anticipated impact of the approved standards of accommodation for air travel, proposed in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264.

B. Executive direction and management

Resource requirements (before recosting): $2,128,700

8.38 The Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, the Legal Counsel, is responsible for the overall policy direction, supervision, administration and management of the Office of Legal Affairs. He represents the Secretary-General at meetings and conferences of a legal nature and in judicial and arbitral proceedings, certifies legal instruments issued on behalf of the United Nations, convenes meetings of the legal advisers of the United Nations system and represents the Organization at such meetings. In the exercise of his responsibilities, the Legal Counsel is assisted by the Assistant Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, who serves as his deputy and who, under the direction of the Legal Counsel, assists with the implementation of the programme of work of all other units in the Office.

8.39 The Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs supports the Legal Counsel in the timely discharge of his responsibilities and in the management of the Office, which includes monitoring the resources of the Office of Legal Affairs to address changing organizational priorities and increased workload, and improving the Office's management systems. The Office of the Under-Secretary-General supports the Legal Counsel in formulating recommendations to the Secretary-General in interdepartmental and inter-agency bodies, in the coordination of the United Nations Legal Advisers Network and in the provision of legal advice to high-level inter-agency bodies. It monitors the implementation of the programme of work and acts as the focal point for information on all aspects of the work of the Office of Legal Affairs. It also coordinates interdepartmental activities and consults and negotiates with other departments, offices, subsidiary bodies and related agencies of the United Nations system on matters of mutual concern.

Table 8.10 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: To ensure full implementation of legislative mandates and compliance with United Nations policies and procedures with respect to the management of the programme of work and of staff and financial resources

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	*Indicators of achievement*		*Performance measures*		
			2016-2017	*2014-2015*	*2012-2013*
(a) Increased timeliness of submission of documentation	Maintain the percentage of pre-session documents submitted in accordance with the required deadline	Target	92	92	92
		Estimate		92	92
		Actual			98
(b) Enhanced coordination in the work of legal advisers and legal liaison officers of the United Nations system	Number of major meetings carried out in collaboration with other legal advisers	Target	6	6	6
		Estimate		6	6
		Actual			6

External factors

8.40 The Office of Legal Affairs is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments in the area of executive direction and management on the assumption that recruitment and placement of staff is timely.

Outputs

8.41 During the biennium 2016-2017, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) Coordination with the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and with the offices of other senior managers to ensure optimal coordination between the Office of Legal Affairs and other parts of the Organization and, in this regard, optimal support to the Legal Counsel;

(b) Organization of meetings annually in connection with three United Nations legal networks (6);

(c) Regular meetings with the director of each unit to ensure the timely provision of advisory services and the substantive servicing of meetings;

(d) Regular monitoring of all units to ensure the continued timely submission of parliamentary documentation and recurrent and non-recurrent publications;

(e) Representation of the Secretary-General in legal conferences and legal proceedings, as required, and provision of legal advice to the Secretary-General.

8.42 The distribution of resources for executive direction and management is shown in table 8.11 below.

Table 8.11 **Resource requirements: executive direction and management**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017 (before recosting)*	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017*
Regular budget				
Post	2 035.3	2 035.3	7	7
Non-post	104.3	93.4	–	–
Total	**2 139.6**	**2 128.7**	**7**	**7**

8.43 The amount of $2,128,700 would provide for the continuation of seven posts (1 Under-Secretary-General, 1 P-5, 1 P-3, 1 General Service (Principal level) and 3 General Service (Other level)), and non-post requirements related to travel of staff, contractual services, hospitality and equipment necessary for the operation of the Office. The reduced requirements under travel of staff, which take into account the anticipated impact of the approved standards of accommodation for air travel, and reductions under overtime anticipated in 2016-2017 are proposed in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264.

C. Programme of work

8.44 The distribution of resources for the programme of work is shown in table 8.12 below.

Table 8.12 **Resource requirements by subprogramme**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Subprogramme	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017 (before recosting)*	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017*
Regular budget				
1. Provision of legal services to the United Nations system as a whole	3 813.6	3 798.9	12	12
2. General legal services provided to the United Nations organs and programmes	7 273.7	7 270.8	23	23
3. Progressive development and codification of international law	6 784.6	8 602.4	21	21
4. Law of the Sea and ocean affairs	9 788.9	9 854.7	30	30
5. Progressive harmonization, modernization and unification of the law of international trade	6 518.1	6 505.1	20	20
6. Custody, registration and publication of treaties	6 412.5	6 306.3	26	26
Subtotal	**40 591.4**	**42 338.2**	**132**	**132**
Other assessed	7 279.9	7 739.8	16	19
Extrabudgetary	9 935.2	8 310.5	10	10
Total	**57 806.5**	**58 388.5**	**158**	**161**

Subprogramme 1
Provision of legal services to the United Nations system as a whole

Resource requirements (before recosting): $3,798,900

8.45 Substantive responsibility for subprogramme 1 is vested in the Office of the Legal Counsel. The subprogramme will be implemented in accordance with the strategy set out under subprogramme 1 of programme 6 of the biennial programme plan for the period 2016-2017.

Table 8.13 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: To enhance respect for the rule of law and to support the development of international justice by the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	*Indicators of achievement*		*Performance measures*		
			2016-2017	*2014-2015*	*2012-2013*
Effective functioning of the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations in accordance with international law, including the United Nations legal regime, and supporting international justice mechanisms, as mandated	A high percentage of legal instruments are finalized in respect of the activities of the United Nations [percentage of instances where legal instruments are finalized for the activities of the United Nations and where the Office of Legal Affairs enhances respect for the rule of law]	Target	98	98	100
		Estimate		98	98
		Actual			98

External factors

8.46 The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that Member States will be supportive of the Organization and recognize its status and its privileges and immunities through their legal systems, and that United Nations departments and offices will seek legal advice in a timely manner, provide sufficient information for legal analysis and be guided by the advice provided.

Outputs

8.47 During the biennium 2016-2017, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

(i) Provision of advice to the General Assembly, its Main Committees, the Credentials Committee and conferences on the Charter of the United Nations, resolutions, rules of procedure, status of members and observers, credentials and representation (100);

(ii) Provision of oral and written advice to the Security Council and its subsidiary organs on the interpretation and implementation of resolutions, provisional rules of procedure and statutes of ad hoc criminal tribunals (25);

(iii) Provision of substantive and procedural advice to the Economic and Social Council, including functional and regional commissions, on the Charter of the United Nations, resolutions, rules of procedure, elections and non-governmental organizations in consultative status (30);

(iv) Provision of substantive and secretariat services to the Committee on Relations with the Host Country and its working groups, including preparation of notes and statements for the Chairman, assistance to the Bureau, analysis of legal issues and preparation of reports and documentation (5);

(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget/other assessed/extrabudgetary): promotion of legal instruments:

(i) Provision of advice and support to the international and United Nations-assisted criminal tribunals and the relevant management committees on the constitutive instruments and the Secretary-General's functions thereunder, the rules of procedure

and evidence, and all related legal and administrative matters concerning the functioning of the tribunals;

(ii) Provision of advice on legal questions concerning the privileges and immunities and the status of the Organization, including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), in the territories of Member States and relationships with States and intergovernmental organizations;

(iii) Provision of advice on questions relating to the interpretation and application of the Charter, legal agreements, United Nations resolutions and general questions of public international law to ensure uniform and consistent practice of the law;

(iv) Provision of advice to operationally responsible Secretariat units, offices established away from Headquarters, peacekeeping and other missions and expert groups mandated to investigate matters related to international peace and security;

(v) Establishment of and provision of advice on the necessary legal instruments, legal regimes and mandates for all peacekeeping operations and other missions, including agreements with host, third- and troop-contributing States, and cooperation agreements with regional organizations;

(vi) Formulation of statements of public international law and analysis of specific legal issues in response to inquiries from intergovernmental and regional organizations, international and academic institutions, and the public;

(vii) Liaison with the International Court of Justice and discharging the responsibilities of the Secretary-General under the Statute of the Court, including the preparation of legal statements and the transmission of notices relating to legal proceedings;

(viii) Negotiation of international agreements, constitutive instruments and others required for the conduct of mandates carried out by the United Nations and its subsidiary organs, including UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA and UNOPS, with Governments and intergovernmental organizations;

(ix) Preparation and/or analysis of reports of a legal nature requested by the Security Council or its subsidiary organs in the field of international peace and security;

(x) Promotion of respect for Articles 104 and 105 of the Charter, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, the headquarters agreements with the United States of America and other host Governments;

(xi) Settlement of disputes of a public international law character involving the Organization, including representation of the Secretary-General at judicial proceedings, including those of the International Court of Justice;

(xii) Coordination of interdepartmental activities and liaison with United Nations organs dealing with legal matters, offices established away from Headquarters, legal advisers or liaison officers assigned to field missions or other Secretariat units;

(xiii) Representation at and convening of meetings with legal advisers of the United Nations system and cooperation/coordination of institutional arrangements for the specialized agencies and related organizations on matters of common concern;

(xiv) Representation of the Secretary-General and the Legal Counsel at meetings and conferences convened by the United Nations or sponsored by Governments, intergovernmental organizations and other international institutions;

(c) Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary):

(i) Advisory services: assistance to States, including through the Trust Fund to Assist States in the Settlement of Disputes through the International Court of Justice, in settling their legal disputes through the Court, including application of the Statute, and reporting to the Secretary-General and the General Assembly (5);

(ii) Training courses, seminars and workshops: presentation of papers and participation in meetings and conferences sponsored by United Nations organs, Governments, professional societies or international organizations on legal issues relating to the functions of the United Nations (5);

(iii) Provision of legal expertise and resource persons to training courses sponsored by Governments or international institutions for diplomats on subjects falling within the competence of the Office of the Legal Counsel (5).

8.48 The distribution of resources for subprogramme 1 is shown in table 8.14 below.

Table 8.14 **Resource requirements: Provision of legal services to the United Nations system as a whole**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017 (before recosting)*	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017*
Regular budget				
Post	3 645.8	3 645.8	12	12
Non-post	167.8	153.1	–	–
Subtotal	**3 813.6**	**3 798.9**	**12**	**12**
Other assessed	1 904.7	1 919.2	5	5
Extrabudgetary	1 413.6	1 423.3	3	3
Total	**7 131.9**	**7 141.4**	**20**	**20**

8.49 The amount of $3,798,900 would provide for the continuation of 12 posts (1 Assistant Secretary-General, 1 D-1, 2 P-5, 1 P-4, 1 P-3, 1 P-2, 1 General Service (Principal level) and 4 General Service (Other level)) as well as non-post requirements for overtime, travel of staff, contractual services and furniture and equipment. The reduced requirements under travel of staff, which take into account the anticipated impact of the approved standards of accommodation for air travel, and reductions under overtime and contractual services anticipated in 2016-2017 are proposed in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264.

8.50 The amounts of $1,919,200 from the support account for peacekeeping operations and $1,423,300 from extrabudgetary resources would be used to fund eight posts (six in the Professional and higher category and two in the General Service category) and one general temporary assistance position. The lawyers and support staff will provide legal support and assistance to the Organization, specifically to funds and programmes and peacekeeping operations.

Subprogramme 2
General legal services provided to United Nations organs and programmes

Resource requirements (before recosting): $7,270,800

8.51 Substantive responsibility for subprogramme 2 is vested in the General Legal Division. The subprogramme will be implemented in accordance with the strategy set out under subprogramme 2 of programme 6 of the biennial programme plan for the period 2016-2017.

Table 8.15 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: To protect the legal interests of the Organization

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	*Indicators of achievement*		*Performance measures*		
			2016-2017	*2014-2015*	*2012-2013*
(a) Maximization of the protection of the legal interests of the Organization	The absence of instances in which, unless waived, the status and privileges and immunities of the Organization are not maintained	Target	0	0	0
		Estimate		0	0
		Actual			0
	[number of instances in which, unless waived, the status and privileges and immunities of the Organization are not maintained]				
(b) Minimization of the legal liabilities of the Organization	The total amount of the Organization's legal liability for resolved claims is minimized compared with the total amount claimed against the Organization	Target	35	35	35
		Estimate		35	35
		Actual			34
	[percentage of actual legal liability incurred (in dollars) versus the original amount of the resolved claim of liability against the Organization (in dollars)]				

External factors

8.52 The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumptions that: Member States will be supportive of the Organization and recognize its status, and its privileges and immunities, through their legal systems; organizational units will seek timely legal advice, provide sufficient information for analysis, and be guided by advice rendered.

Outputs

8.53 During the biennium 2016-2017, the following outputs will be delivered: conference services, administration and oversight (regular budget/other assessed/extrabudgetary): overall administration and management:

(a) Provision of advice and assistance on arbitration or litigation arising out of peacekeeping and other missions, including representation of the Organization before arbitral, judicial and other quasi-judicial and administrative bodies;

(b) Provision of advice and assistance on arbitration or litigation unrelated to peacekeeping, including representation of the Organization before arbitral, judicial and other quasi-judicial and administrative bodies;

(c) Provision of advice and assistance on maintaining the privileges and immunities of the United Nations and its subsidiary organs before judicial, quasi-judicial and other administrative bodies;

(d) Provision of advice on administrative policies and procedures, including formation and interpretation of regulations, rules and other administrative issuances;

(e) Provision of advice on claims arising out of peacekeeping and other missions, including assistance in resolving contractual and real property disputes, as well as claims for property damage, personal injury and death;

(f) Provision of advice on commercial activities unrelated to peacekeeping, including contracts and substantial procurement of goods and services, insurance, real property arrangements, intellectual property issues, and procurement practices, policies and procedures;

(g) Provision of advice on commercial and other claims unrelated to peacekeeping, including assistance in resolving contractual and real property disputes, as well as claims for property damage, personal injury and death;

(h) Provision of advice on commercial aspects of development assistance, including goods and services, establishment of field offices and management of loans by Governments and regional, international or other financial institutions;

(i) Provision of advice on commercial aspects of peacekeeping and other missions, including contracts and substantial procurement for logistical support, insurance, demining and similar operations, disposition of assets, and air and sea charter arrangements;

(j) Provision of advice on financial questions, including formation and interpretation of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, treasury operations, banking arrangements, and the operations and investments of the Joint Staff Pension Fund;

(k) Provision of advice on fundraising activities of separately funded subsidiary organs, including arrangements regarding administrative fees and direct or indirect contributions;

(l) Provision of advice on institutional and operational arrangements for peacekeeping and other missions and for development assistance, including formation and interpretation of agreements with Governments and international organizations concerning such arrangements;

(m) Provision of advice on internal oversight services, including assistance in prosecuting staff and others who engage in theft, corruption or other fraudulent activities, and assistance in the recovery of assets fraudulently obtained from the Organization;

(n) Provision of advice on legal aspects of the management of development and technical assistance, including personnel and financial arrangements and the revision and harmonization of staff and financial regulations and rules of the separately funded subsidiary organs;

(o) Provision of advice on personnel matters, including formation and interpretation of the Staff Regulations and Rules, issues of the rights and obligations of staff members, benefits and allowances, tax reimbursement and pension matters;

(p) Provision of advice on public-private partnerships, including the development of new modalities for such partnerships and the interpretation and application of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and national law requirements to such modalities;

(q) Provision of advice on the legislative aspects of peacekeeping and other missions, such as regulations and rules and the Field Administration Handbook, governing staff serving in such missions;

(r) Legal representation in cases before the United Nations Appeals Tribunal, assistance in cases before the United Nations Dispute Tribunal, and general assistance with respect to the system for the internal administration of justice in the United Nations.

8.54 The distribution of resources for subprogramme 2 is shown in table 8.16 below.

Table 8.16 **Resource requirements: General legal services provided to United Nations organs and programmes**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017 (before recosting)*	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017*
Regular budget				
Post	7 015.7	7 015.7	23	23
Non-post	258.0	255.1	–	–
Subtotal	**7 273.7**	**7 270.8**	**23**	**23**
Other assessed	5 375.2	5 820.6	11	14
Extrabudgetary	2 539.1	2 560.4	7	7
Total	**15 188.0**	**15 651.8**	**41**	**44**

8.55 The amount of $7,270,800 would provide for the continuation of 23 posts (1 D-2, 1 D-1, 4 P-5, 5 P-4, 4 P-3, 1 P-2 and 7 General Service (Other level)), and for non-post requirements such as consultancy for retaining services of counsel on issues requiring special expertise not available in the Secretariat, travel of staff, contractual services, including subscriptions and fees for legal database services, and office automation equipment. The reduced requirements under travel of staff take into account the anticipated impact of the approved standards of accommodation for air travel, proposed in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264.

8.56 The amount of $5,820,600 under the heading "Other assessed" relates to the support account for peacekeeping operations and, together with $2,560,400 from extrabudgetary resources, will be utilized to fund 21 posts, including 17 in the Professional and higher category and 4 in the General Service category. The lawyers and support staff will provide legal support and assistance to the Organization and, specifically, to peacekeeping operations, and to the funds and programmes. The increased requirements are primarily attributable to the proposed establishment of one Legal Officer (P-4) post for the General Legal Division. The projected requirements also include the proposed conversion of two general temporary assistance positions of Legal Officer (1 P-4 and 1 P-3) in the General Legal Division to posts, in support of its work in the area of the administration of justice and legal support for management, as reflected in the report of the Secretary-General on the budget for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 (see A/69/750, paras. 600-604).

Subprogramme 3
Progressive development and codification of international law

Resource requirements (before recosting): $8,602,400

8.57 Substantive responsibility for subprogramme 3 is vested in the Codification Division. The subprogramme will be implemented in accordance with the strategy detailed under subprogramme 3 of programme 6 of the biennial programme plan for the period 2016-2017.

Table 8.17 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: Progressive development and codification of international law

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	*Indicators of achievement*		*Performance measures*		
			2016-2017	*2014-2015*	*2012-2013*
(a) Progress in the formulation of legal instruments	Percentage of legal instruments under preparation that advanced to a higher level of progress	Target	50	40	–
		Estimate		40	50
		Actual			67
(b) Wider appreciation and understanding of international law	(i) High level of satisfaction rating from the participants responding to the survey on international law training activities [percentage of respondents expressing satisfaction]	Target	90	90	90
		Estimate		90	90
		Actual			93
	(ii) Increasing number of unique end users of legal publications, documents and information disseminated in hard copy and online	Target	500 000	–	–
		Estimate		450 000	–
		Actual			–
	(iii) Improved regional balance among the regional courses in international law [percentage of regions where courses in international law are held, out of a total of three regions]	Target	100	–	–
		Estimate		33	–
		Actual			66

External factors

8.58 The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) problems requiring legal regulations at the international level are universally recognized, and favourable political conditions exist for their legal solution; (b) a political environment stimulating participation of States in international legal instruments promoted under the subprogramme continues to exist; (c) leading scholars and experts for seminars and courses planned under the subprogramme are available; (d) Governments will show readiness to host/sponsor regional seminars; and (e) extrabudgetary funding and/or gratis assistance is available for the publication of the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*.

Outputs

8.59 During the biennium 2016-2017, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

(i) General Assembly:

a. Substantive servicing of the meetings of the Sixth Committee (80);

b. Parliamentary documentation: report of the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 (2); report of the Sixth Committee (36); report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization (2); report on assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions (2); report on the consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives; report on the criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission (2); report on diplomatic protection; report on measures to eliminate international terrorism (2); report on prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities and allocation of loss in case of such harm; report on the responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts (2); report on the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council* (2); report on the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law (2); report on the scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction (2); report on the status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts; report on the effects of armed conflicts on treaties; report on the responsibility of international organizations (3);

(ii) Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization:

a. Substantive servicing of the meetings of the Committee and its working group (16);

b. Parliamentary documentation: pre-session and in-session documents (including the provisional agenda) (2);

(iii) Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, and Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law: substantive servicing of meetings (4);

(iv) Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings (2);

b. Parliamentary documentation: pre-session and in-session documents (2);

(v) International Law Commission:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings (182);

b. Parliamentary documentation: report of the Special Rapporteur on the immunity of State officials from foreign criminal jurisdiction (2); report of the Special Rapporteur on the protection of persons in the event of disasters (1); topical summary of the debate in the Sixth Committee on the report of the International

Law Commission (2); report of the Special Rapporteur on the provisional application of treaties (2); report of the Special Rapporteur on the identification of customary international law (2); report of the Special Rapporteur on subsequent agreements and subsequent practice in relation to the interpretation of treaties (2); report of the Special Rapporteur on crimes against humanity (2); report of the Special Rapporteur on *jus cogens* (2); report of the International Law Commission (2); report of the Special Rapporteur on the protection of the atmosphere (2); report of the Special Rapporteur on the protection of the environment in relation to armed conflict (2); survey of international law, prepared by the Secretariat (1);

c. Assistance to representatives and rapporteurs: assistance to the Special Rapporteurs of the International Law Commission on crimes against humanity; *jus cogens*; subsequent agreements and subsequent practice in relation to the interpretation of treaties; the immunities of State officials from foreign jurisdiction; the identification of customary international law; the protection of the atmosphere; the protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts; the provisional application of treaties; and the protection of persons in the event of disasters;

(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):

(i) Recurrent publications: *United Nations Juridical Yearbook 2014*, *2015* and *2016* (3); *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*, Supplement No. 10, vol. IV and Supplement Nos. 7-10, vol. III (2); United Nations Legislative Series, vol. 27 (1); *Yearbook of the International Law Commission*, 2011, vols. I and II, 2012, vols. I and II and 2013, vols. I and II (6); *Reports of International Arbitral Awards*, vols. XXXI and XXXII (2);

(ii) Non-recurrent publications: Judgments, Advisory Opinions and orders of the International Court of Justice (2013-2017) (1); *The Work of the International Law Commission* (9th edition), vols. I and II (2); *United Nations Juridical Yearbook*: special edition (1); *International Instruments related to the Prevention and Suppression of International Terrorism* (4th edition) (1);

(iii) Promotion of legal instruments: coordination of the preparation of the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*; provision of advice to the United Nations Office at Geneva on preparation of the yearbooks of the International Law Commission; website on official records of diplomatic conferences; website on the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*; website on the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law; website on the *Yearbooks of the International Law Commission*; website on the codification and progressive development of international law; website of the International Law Commission; website of the Sixth Committee; website on the Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law;

(iv) Seminars for outside users: lectures/briefings on subjects of international public law of direct relevance to the subprogramme for outside users (1);

(c) Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary):

(i) Advisory services: cooperation with regional bodies dealing with issues of progressive development of international law and its codification;

(ii) Training courses, seminars and workshops under the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of

International Law: international law fellowship programmes (2); regional courses in international law (6).

8.60 The distribution of resources for subprogramme 3 is shown in table 8.18 below.

Table 8.18 **Resource requirements: Progressive development and codification of international law**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017 (before recosting)*	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017*
Regular budget				
Post	6 224.3	6 224.3	21	21
Non-post	560.3	2 378.1	–	–
Subtotal	**6 784.6**	**8 602.4**	**21**	**21**
Extrabudgetary	851.3	167.2	–	–
Total	**7 635.9**	**8 769.6**	**21**	**21**

8.61 The amount of $8,602,400 would provide for 21 posts (1 D-2, 2 D-1, 2 P-5, 4 P-4, 2 P-3, 3 P-2, 1 General Service (Principal level), 6 General Service (Other level)) as well as non-post requirements for overtime, general temporary assistance, travel of staff, contractual services, operating expenses, fellowships, supplies and materials, and furniture and equipment. The increase of $1,817,800 is primarily attributable to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 69/117 on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law which will entail (i) the organization each year of one Regional Courses each, for Africa, for Asia-Pacific and for Latin America and the Caribbean with a minimum of 20 fellowships; and (ii) the further development of the Lecture Series of the Audiovisual Library of International Law. Those activities were previously partially funded through extrabudgetary resources.

8.62 Notwithstanding that the regular budget will provide the necessary resources to carry out the activities under the Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, the Codification Division will continue to make all efforts, within its existing resources, to supplement the regular funding for the Programme of Assistance with extrabudgetary resources, including in-kind contributions. Extrabudgetary resources, in the estimated amount of $167,200, would be utilized to develop the Historic Archives of the Audiovisual Library and to support additional fellowships for the International Law Fellowship Programme and the Regional Courses. Extrabudgetary resources would also be utilized for preparation of the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*.

Subprogramme 4
Law of the sea and ocean affairs

Resource requirements (before recosting): $9,854,700

8.63 Substantive responsibility for subprogramme 4 is vested in the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea. The subprogramme will be implemented in accordance with the strategy set out under subprogramme 4 of programme 6 of the biennial programme plan for the period 2016-2017.

Table 8.19 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: To promote and strengthen the law of the sea for the peaceful use of the oceans and sustainable development

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	*Indicators of achievement*		*Performance measures*		
			2016-2017	*2014-2015*	*2012-2013*
(a) Increased participation of States in, and effective implementation and application of, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the related implementing agreements	(i) Increased number of States parties to the Convention and its implementing agreements	Target	396	388	380
		Estimate		394	382
		Actual			392
	(ii) Increased number of deposits of charts and list of coordinates under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea	Target	125	93	82
		Estimate		112	86
		Actual			99
	(iii) Increased number of submissions actively considered by the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf [number of submissions, including revised submissions, that have been or are under consideration by a constituted subcommission]	Target	37	20	11
		Estimate		31	17
		Actual			27
(b) Enhanced cooperation and coordination among stakeholders in relation to ocean and coastal issues	(i) Increased number of joint activities carried out by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea with United Nations system organizations and other bodies, including through UN-Oceans	Target	23	–	–
		Estimate		21	–
		Actual			19
	(ii) Increased number of cooperative activities supported by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, between and among States and other stakeholders, including those aimed at contributing to the sustainable development of the oceans and seas, such as the global integrated marine assessment; the conservation and sustainable use of marine living resources; and marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction [number of international activities to which the Division provided input]	Target	95	–	–
		Estimate		93	–
		Actual			90
(c) Enhanced understanding of, and/or familiarity with, the law of the sea and related legislative and policy frameworks	Increased percentage of feedback from States and other entities indicating satisfaction with technical assistance and capacity-building activities	Target	71	–	–
		Estimate		70	–
		Actual			–

External factors

8.64 The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) Member States accord due priority in their policies, plans, programmes and projects to ocean affairs and the law of the sea and the implementation of the United Nations

Convention on the Law of the Sea and its implementing agreements; (b) national authorities have the capacity to implement legal instruments in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea; (c) the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf progresses in its consideration of submissions at a pace commensurate with existing working arrangements, working conditions and the responsiveness from the submitting States in their interactions with the subcommissions; (d) intergovernmental organizations and programmes have adequate resources to carry out the required cooperation and coordination and joint activities; and (e) Governments and other donors show readiness to host and/or sponsor training courses at the subregional/regional level.

Outputs

8.65 During the biennium 2016-2017, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

(i) Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: plenary (20); informal consultations on the draft resolutions under the agenda item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea" (40); informal consultations of States parties to the Fish Stocks Agreement (8);

b. Parliamentary documentation: report of the Meeting of States Parties (2);

(ii) General Assembly:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: processes established by the General Assembly to address the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects (Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, bureau of the Working Group; Group of Experts) (30); informal consultations on the draft resolutions concerning sustainable fisheries under the agenda item "Oceans and the law of the sea" (24); processes established by the General Assembly to address the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction (20);

b. Parliamentary documentation: reports of the Secretary-General on developments pertaining to the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and other issues relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, and on issues as required by article 319 of the Convention (5); reports related to sustainable fisheries (2); report on the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects (2); report on the work of the process established by the General Assembly to address the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction (2); report on the work of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (2); resolution on oceans and the law of the sea (2); resolution on fisheries (2);

(iii) Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea: substantive servicing of meetings: plenary and panel discussions (16);

(iv) Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: plenary sessions and meetings of the subcommissions and of the Commission (400);

b. Parliamentary documentation: background papers and conference room papers, as mandated (4);

(v) Resumed Review Conference on the Fish Stocks Agreement:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings (10);

b. Parliamentary documentation: report of the Secretary-General;

(vi) Ad hoc expert groups: participation in and servicing of plenary meetings of the Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts Advisory Board; contributions to the work of the Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection, including participation in its meetings;

(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget/extrabudgetary):

(i) Recurrent publications: *Bibliography of the Law of the Sea* (2); *Law of the Sea Bulletin* (6);

(ii) Booklets, fact sheets, wallcharts, information kits: abstracts for the inter-agency monthly publication Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts; information on current developments in the law of the sea and ocean affairs; special studies/reviews, in cooperation with competent international organizations as required, on selected emerging or current issues related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs;

(iii) Press releases, press conferences: Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea; meetings of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea, Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, resumed Review Conference on the Fish Stocks Agreement, General Assembly process to address the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction, and the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects;

(iv) Technical material: Internet website on the law of the sea and ocean affairs; maintenance and further development of the facilities for the deposit by States of charts and geographical coordinates concerning baselines and limits of national maritime zones and of the system for their recording;

(v) Promotion of legal instruments: provision of information, advice and assistance for the promotion of the universal acceptance of the Convention and the related agreements, their uniform and consistent application and their effective implementation; execution of secretariat functions relating to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (in particular during the intersessional period), including support to coastal States; secretariat functions relating to the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects; functions of focal point for UN-Oceans in accordance with the terms of reference approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 68/70; provision of information, advice and assistance on the conservation and sustainable use of marine living resources, in particular on the uniform and consistent application of the Convention and the Fish Stocks Agreement; provision of information, advice and assistance on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction; provision of information, advice and assistance aimed at contributing to the sustainable development of oceans and seas; provision of information, advice and assistance aimed at raising awareness of the adverse impacts of climate change on oceans and of ocean acidification, and addressing such

impacts; monitoring, review and analysis of emerging and foreseeable issues relating to oceans and law of the sea; provision of information, advice and assistance for efforts to enhance maritime security and reduce crimes at sea in accordance with the Convention; preparation of papers and technical materials for intergovernmental meetings and other events upon request/invitation;

(vi) Special events: organization of World Oceans Day (2);

(c) Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary):

(i) Advisory services: advice to other departments and offices of the Secretariat on matters related to oceans and law of the sea;

(ii) Training courses, seminars and workshops: alumni meetings for the United Nations/Nippon Foundation Fellowship Programme (2); preparation for and implementation of capacity-building activities (4);

(iii) Fellowships and grants: annual award of the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship and supervision of fellowship recipient through the operation of the fellowship programme (2); annual award of the United Nations/Nippon Foundation fellowships and supervision of the fellowship recipients (22);

(d) Conference services, administration, oversight (regular budget/extrabudgetary):

(i) Library services: provision of library services through the maintenance and development of the specialized reference collection and bibliographic database on the law of the sea and ocean affairs;

(ii) Overall administration and management: administrative activities related to oceans and law of the sea, including management of trust funds; development and organization of capacity-building activities; and execution of liaison functions for the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea.

8.66 The distribution of resources for subprogramme 4 is shown in table 8.20 below.

Table 8.20 **Resource requirements: Law of the sea and ocean affairs**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017 (before recosting)*	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017*
Regular budget				
Post	8 991.9	8 991.9	30	30
Non-post	797.0	862.8	–	–
Subtotal	**9 788.9**	**9 854.7**	**30**	**30**
Extrabudgetary	4 063.9	3 509.1	–	–
Total	**13 852.8**	**13 363.8**	**30**	**30**

8.67 The amount of $9,854,700 would provide for the continuation of 30 posts (1 D-2, 2 D-1, 5 P-5, 4 P-4, 6 P-3, 3 P-2, 1 General Service (Principal level) and 8 General Service (Other level)) and for non-post items such as overtime, consultants, experts, travel of staff, contractual services, general operating expenses, supplies and furniture and equipment. The increase of $65,800 is the net result of (a) an increase of $33,800 for the hiring of consultants to provide information and analysis on technical and scientific issues that will be covered by the report to the resumed Review

Conference on the Fish Stocks Agreement and the report on bottom fisheries, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/109; (b) an increase of $51,400 under contractual services to cover the increased needs for information technology support for the processing of submissions of States parties; (c) a reduction of $9,000 under equipment based on the replacement cycle of existing equipment; and (d) reductions under overtime ($2,300) and travel of staff ($8,100). The reduced requirements under travel of staff, which take into account the anticipated impact of the approved standards of accommodation for air travel, and reductions under overtime anticipated in 2016-2017, are proposed in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264.

8.68 Extrabudgetary resources in the estimated amount of $3,509,100 would be utilized for fellowship programmes in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea, to assist developing States in attending meetings of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea, to assist members of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf who are from developing States to participate in meetings, to assist developing States in the preparation of submissions to the Commission, to assist States in the settlement of disputes through the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea and to support the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects. The decrease in extrabudgetary resources in 2016-2017 reflects the completion of a project to support initiatives of States countering piracy, which is expected to be completed in 2015.

Subprogramme 5
Progressive harmonization, modernization and unification of the law of international trade

Resource requirements (before recosting): $6,505,100

8.69 Substantive responsibility for subprogramme 5 is vested in the International Trade Law Division. The subprogramme will be implemented in accordance with the strategy detailed under subprogramme 5 of programme 6 of the biennial programme plan for the period 2016-2017.

Table 8.21 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: Progressive improvement, harmonization, understanding, knowledge, interpretation and application of international trade law and coordination of the work of international organizations active in that field

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	*Indicators of achievement*		*Performance measures*		
			2016-2017	*2014-2015*	*2012-2013*
(a) Effective progress towards the modernization of trade law and practices and reduction of legal uncertainties and obstacles posed by inadequate and disparate laws or conflicting interpretation and application of laws	(i) Increased number of legislative decisions (ratifications and national enactments) based on texts of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)	Target	65	35	40
		Estimate		61	40
		Actual			63
	(ii) Increased number of judicial and arbitral decisions based on UNCITRAL texts [additional judicial and arbitral decisions collected in the CLOUT database]	Target	200	180	95
		Estimate		195	180
		Actual			193

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement	Performance measures	2016-2017	2014-2015	2012-2013
(b) Increased awareness and understanding of international trade law issues and reliance on UNCITRAL standards	(i) Increased number of publications or databases referring to the work and mentioning texts of UNCITRAL [number of additional publications collected in the UNCITRAL bibliography]	Target	1 150	900	500
		Estimate		1 100	1 000
		Actual			1 066
	(ii) Increased number of visitors on the UNCITRAL website [number of visits to the website per day]	Target	2 450	2 500	2 500
		Estimate		2 400	2 500
		Actual			2 399
(c) Improved coordination and cooperation among international organizations active in the field of international trade law	Increased number of joint activities that incorporate reference to UNCITRAL trade law standards	Target	75	70	70
		Estimate		70	70
		Actual			71
(d) Improved functioning of UNCITRAL	Increased responsiveness of Member States and other bodies to the survey or other indication of their satisfaction with the services provided [percentage of Member States and other bodies that respond to the survey or otherwise indicate their satisfaction with the services provided]	Target	10	8	–
		Estimate		9	6
		Actual			8

External factors

8.70 The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) Member States will commit to adhere to Conventions and enact model laws and to report on such legislative actions; (b) national correspondents will report on court and arbitral tribunal activities at the national level; (c) international organizations will cooperate in the coordination process and organization of joint activities; and (d) representatives of Member States and other bodies will comment on their level of satisfaction with the work of the secretariat.

Outputs

8.71 During the biennium 2016-2017, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

(i) United Nations Commission on International Trade Law:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: presentation of substantive reports prepared by the Division, responses to requests for clarification, procedural and substantive advice to the Chairperson and preparation of the draft report (2); presentation of the annual report of the Commission (2);

b. Parliamentary documentation: report of the Commission to the General Assembly (2); reports of six intergovernmental working groups, substantive reports requested by the Commission, substantive recurrent reports and substantive conference room papers (50);

(ii) UNCITRAL Working Groups I to VI:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: presentation of substantive reports prepared by the Division, responses to requests for clarification, procedural and substantive advice to the Chairperson and preparation of draft reports (24);

b. Parliamentary documentation: reports prepared in response to requests of the working groups and substantive conference room papers (216);

(iii) Ad hoc expert groups: discussion of draft reports and statutory texts prepared by the Division for submission to the Commission and its working groups (24);

(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):

(i) Recurrent publications: *UNCITRAL Digest of Case Law on the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods*; commentaries on UNCITRAL texts; consolidated bibliography of recent writings related to the work of UNCITRAL; *Yearbook of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law* (2); UNCITRAL collected texts;

(ii) Non-recurrent publications: convention on enforceability of settlement agreements resulting from international commercial conciliation; convention on selected international insolvency issues; general text on UNCITRAL work; micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises: legislative guide on best practices for business registration and model law and guide to enactment on simplified incorporation; model law on secured transactions with guide to enactment; model law or legislative provisions on selected international issues, including jurisdiction, access and recognition in the cross-border insolvency of enterprise groups; protocol on electronic transferable records to the United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts and explanatory note; Rotterdam Rules accession kit; UNCITRAL model rules for online dispute resolution; UNCITRAL notes on organizing arbitral proceedings (update); UNCITRAL text on identity management, mobile payments and electronic single windows; UNCITRAL study on the insolvency of large and complex financial institutions; UNCITRAL text on concurrent proceedings in the field of investment arbitration; UNCITRAL text on enforcement of insolvency-derived judgements; UNCITRAL text on insolvency of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises; UNCITRAL text on obligations of directors of enterprise groups members in the period approaching insolvency;

(iii) Exhibits, guided tours, lectures: lectures to groups of practitioners, academics and law students in Vienna and elsewhere as part of programmes organized by other professional, academic, non-governmental or intergovernmental organizations (15);

(iv) Special events: participation as co-organizers and moderators in the annual Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot in Vienna (2);

(v) Technical material: maintenance of a searchable online database of court and arbitral decisions on Commission texts collected through the CLOUT mechanism; analysis and monitoring of trends; maintenance of the system for collecting court and arbitral decisions on Commission texts;

(c) Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary):

(i) Advisory services: advisory services at the request of Governments in the form of briefing missions, seminars, law reform assessments, assistance in the drafting of

national legislation based on UNCITRAL texts and advice on the use of non-legislative Commission texts (30);

(ii) Field projects: enhancement of international trade and development at the regional level;

(d) Conference services, administration, oversight (regular budget): acquisition for and servicing of the UNCITRAL Law Library; maintenance of the UNCITRAL website.

8.72 The distribution of resources for subprogramme 5 is shown in table 8.22 below.

Table 8.22 **Resource requirements: Progressive harmonization, modernization and unification of the law of international trade**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017 (before recosting)*	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017*
Regular budget				
Post	5 959.4	5 959.4	20	20
Non-post	558.7	545.7	–	–
Subtotal	**6 518.1**	**6 505.1**	**20**	**20**
Extrabudgetary	1 067.3	650.5	–	–
Total	**7 585.4**	**7 155.6**	**20**	**20**

8.73 The amount of $6,505,100 would provide for the continuation of 20 posts (1 D-2, 1 D-1, 3 P-5, 5 P-4, 3 P-3, 1 P-2 and 6 General Service (Other level)), and for non-post resources for consultants and experts, travel of staff, contractual services, general operating expenses, supplies, and furniture and equipment. The reduced requirements under travel of staff, which take into account the anticipated impact of the approved standards of accommodation for air travel, and reductions under supplies and materials anticipated in 2016-2017, are proposed in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264.

8.74 Extrabudgetary resources estimated at $650,500 would be utilized to provide advisory services at the request of Governments in the form of briefing missions, seminars, law reform assessments, assistance in the drafting of national legislation based on UNCITRAL texts and advice on the use of non-legislative Commission texts. These technical assistance activities ensure response to requests from Governments of developing countries, countries with economies in transition and regional organizations for information and assistance in considering and using UNCITRAL legal instruments in the area of international trade law, including drafting necessary domestic legislation. These activities increase the awareness of policymakers, judges, legal practitioners and other persons involved in trade law matters and facilitate the use, interpretation, adoption and enactment of UNCITRAL texts. The level of extrabudgetary resources is based on past trends and current contribution agreements. The reduction in extrabudgetary resources in 2016-2017 is mainly due to the fact that a current multi-year contribution agreement will end in 2016, thus the annual contribution of $500,000 is not reflected in the projections for 2017 at this stage. Subject to further negotiations, the agreement may be extended.

Subprogramme 6
Custody, registration and publication of treaties

Resource requirements (before recosting): $6,306,300

8.75 Substantive responsibility for subprogramme 6 is vested in the Treaty Section. The subprogramme will be implemented in accordance with the strategy detailed under subprogramme 6 of programme 6 of the biennial programme plan for the period 2016-2017.

Table 8.23 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: Wider awareness of and participation in treaties concluded under the auspices of the United Nations and deposited with the Secretary-General, as well as registration and publication of treaties under Article 102 of the Charter, and actions relating to those treaties

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	*Indicators of achievement*		*Performance measures*		
			2016-2017	*2014-2015*	*2012-2013*
(a) Improved access to treaties deposited with the Secretary-General and related treaty actions, including information on their status, and to treaties and related treaty actions submitted for registration and publication with the Secretariat	(i) Actions relating to treaties to be deposited with the Secretary-General are processed in a timely manner [number of days taken to process treaty actions if no translation is required]	Target	1.5	1.5	2
		Estimate		1.5	2
		Actual			2
	(ii) A treaty and action is registered in a timely manner [number of days taken to register a treaty and treaty action if no translation is required]	Target	1	1	–
		Estimate		1	1
		Actual			1
	(iii) Increased number of page views on the Treaty Section website [average number of page views per month]	Target	350 000	324 000	350 000
		Estimate		324 000	350 000
		Actual			391 300
(b) Ongoing State participation in the international treaty framework	Continuous receipt of treaties and actions for deposit with the Secretary-General and for registration [number of treaties and treaty actions received]	Target	5 360	5 360	3 400
		Estimate		5 360	5 330
		Actual			4 766
(c) Enhanced familiarity with and understanding by Member States of the technical and legal aspects of participating in the multilateral treaty framework and registering treaties	(i) Continuous requests for depositary and registration-related information and advice from States, United Nations offices, specialized agencies and treaty bodies [number of requests]	Target	1 675	1 650	1 600
		Estimate		1 650	1 600
		Actual			1 600
	(ii) Increased percentage of participants who indicate their satisfaction with the training on treaty law and practice in a survey or otherwise	Target	72	71	–
		Estimate		71	70
		Actual			70

External factors

8.76 The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that:

(a) Member States will request legal and technical assistance before concluding multilateral treaties to be deposited with the Secretary-General, in particular final clauses of treaties, which would avoid complex and legal issues of interpretation and application, and will submit treaty actions in proper form guided by the provisions of the treaty in question and the legal advice provided;

(b) Member States will provide complete materials in proper form to facilitate registration and publication, and will provide courtesy translations into English or French of treaties submitted in languages other than the official languages of the United Nations (courtesy translations into either English or French help the registration process but not the publication process, as such translations are subject to further review and necessary translation);

(c) Governments will show readiness to host and/or sponsor treaty law seminars; relevant and competent individuals are chosen by Governments to undertake the training; and appropriate experts from substantive offices of the United Nations or from other international organizations or academia are available to provide training in the implementation of specific treaties and can fund their own participation;

(d) Various risks normally associated with information technology vendors will unfold within expected parameters. Expected risks associated with a highly complex, custom-designed information system would be maintained at acceptable levels.

Outputs

8.77 During the biennium 2016-2017, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

(i) Depository services: examination and validation of any corrections submitted to the text of a treaty deposited with the Secretary-General and rectification of the text; examination of whether an instrument of full powers, acceptance, approval, ratification or accession or a reservation or declaration to a treaty deposited with the Secretary-General is in due and proper form and, if need be, bringing the matter to the attention of the State in question; preparation of the original text of new multilateral treaties for which the Secretary-General is the depositary, as well as certified true copies; processing, recording and notifying States and international organizations through depositary notifications of treaty actions (signatures, ratifications, acceptances, approvals, accessions and successions, declarations, reservations, etc.) and other treaty-related formalities; receipt of any signatures to a multilateral treaty deposited with the Secretary-General and receiving and keeping custody of any instruments relating to it; review of adopted amendments and preparation of depositary notifications circulating the amendments;

(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):

(i) Recurrent publications: statement of treaties and international agreements registered or filed and recorded with the Secretariat (24); treaty event booklet (2); United Nations *Treaty Series* (124);

(ii) Booklets, fact sheets, wallcharts, information kits: preparation of papers and other materials for training seminars and other events;

(iii) Special events: organization and servicing of a special treaty event dedicated to a particular treaty deposited with the Secretary-General; organization and servicing of the treaty event during the opening of the session of the General Assembly to encourage wider participation in the multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General (2);

(iv) Technical material: maintenance of information related to capacity-building on the Treaty Section website and the United Nations Legal Technical Assistance website; maintenance and updating of the United Nations Treaty Collection on the Treaty Section website; maintenance and updating of the status of multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General, posting of depositary notifications, certified true copies and other depositary-related information on the Treaty Section website;

(v) Promotion of legal instruments: analysis and filing and recording of treaties; analysis and registration of subsequent treaty actions to treaties already registered or filed and recorded with the Secretariat (Article 102 of the Charter); analysis and registration of treaties (Article 102 of the Charter); provision of information and legal advice concerning the registration of treaties to States, intergovernmental organizations, United Nations offices and other treaty bodies; provision of information and legal advice on treaty law and depositary practice to States, international organizations, United Nations offices and other treaty bodies;

(c) Technical cooperation (regular budget):

(i) Advisory services: advisory services to States, international organizations, United Nations offices and other treaty bodies on legal questions concerning final clauses to treaties to be deposited with the Secretary-General (2);

(ii) Training courses, seminars and workshops: training seminars at Headquarters on various aspects of treaty law, the depositary practice of the Secretary-General and the registration of treaties organized for Government officials, representatives from permanent missions and international organizations (4); training seminars at the regional level on various aspects of treaty law, the depositary practice of the Secretary-General and the registration of treaties organized for Government officials and representatives of international organizations (2).

8.78 The distribution of resources for subprogramme 6 is reflected in table 8.24 below.

Table 8.24 **Resource requirements: Custody, registration and publication of treaties**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017 (before recosting)*	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017*
Regular budget				
Post	6 100.3	5 935.6	26	26
Non-post	312.2	370.7	–	–
Total	**6 412.5**	**6 306.3**	**26**	**26**

8.79 The amount of $6,306,300 would provide for partial financing of 26 posts (1 P-5, 2 P-4, 4 P-3, 5 P-2, 7 General Service (Principal level) and 7 General Service (Other level)), and for various non-post items, including travel of staff, general operating expenses, contractual services and office equipment. The net decrease of $106,200 is primarily due to the freezing of recruitment against established posts ($164,700). The reduced requirements under travel of staff take into account the

anticipated impact of the approved standards of accommodation for air travel, proposed in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264. These reductions are partly offset by the increased need for information technology support for the continuous maintenance of the treaty information system.

D. Programme support

Resource requirements (before recosting): $1,838,000

8.80 The Executive Office provides services to the Office of Legal Affairs in connection with personnel, budgetary and financial administration, resource planning and use of common services, together with administrative support for policymaking organs and other international meetings, as required.

8.81 The distribution of resources for programme support is reflected in table 8.25 below.

Table 8.25 **Resource requirements: programme support**

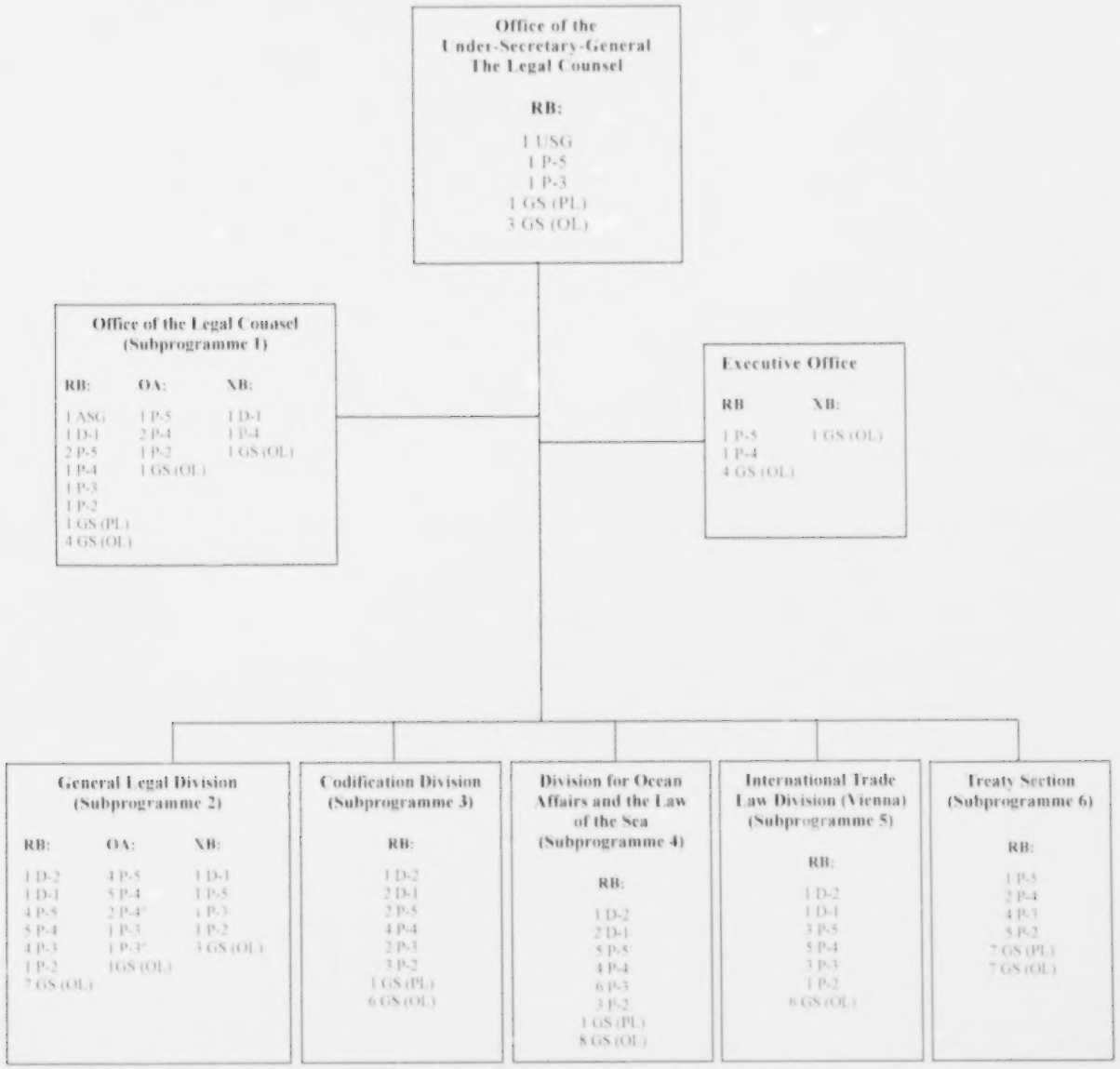
	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017 (before recosting)*	*2014-2015*	*2016-2017*
Regular budget				
Post	1 435.0	1 275.3	6	6
Non-post	550.0	562.7	–	–
Subtotal	**1 985.0**	**1 838.0**	**6**	**6**
Extrabudgetary	187.2	187.4	1	1
Total	**2 172.2**	**2 025.4**	**7**	**7**

8.82 The amount of $1,838,000 would provide for partial financing of six posts (1 P-5, 1 P-4 and 4 General Service (Other level)), and for various non-post items, such as general temporary assistance, overtime, contractual services, general operating expenses, supplies and materials and office equipment. The decrease of $147,000 is primarily attributable to: (a) the freezing of recruitment against an established post ($35,200) proposed in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264; (b) a decrease of $83,000 under contractual services that relates to the decreased costs of centralized information technology services and the reallocation of those resources to subprogrammes that are recipients of those services, namely subprogrammes 4 and 6; and (c) projected savings of $28,800 under supplies and materials as a result of higher reliance on paperless technology.

8.83 Extrabudgetary resources estimated at $187,400 would be utilized to fund one General Service (Other level) post to support the workload generated by the administration of trust funds.

Annex I

Organizational structure and post distribution for the biennium 2016-2017



[a] New posts under subprogramme 2, to be funded from other assessed resources, include one proposed new post (P-4) and two proposed posts (1 P-4 and 1 P-3) converted from general temporary assistance positions.

Annex II

Outputs included in the biennium 2014-2015 not to be delivered in 2016-2017

A/68/6 (Sect. 8), paragraph	*Output*	*Quantity*	*Reason for discontinuation*
Progressive development and codification of international law (subprogramme 3)			
8.53 (a) (i) (b)	Report on the law of transboundary aquifers	1	The periodicity of issuance of this report is not established and usually exceeds a two-year cycle
8.53 (a) (v) (b)	Report of the Special Rapporteur on the expulsion of aliens	1	Completed
8.53 (a) (v) (b)	Report of the Special Rapporteur on the obligation to extradite or prosecute	2	Completed
8.53 (a) (v) (c)	Assistance to the Special Rapporteur on the expulsion of aliens	1	Completed
8.53 (a) (v) (c)	Assistance to the Special Rapporteur on the obligation to extradite or prosecute	1	Completed
8.53 (b) (i)	*United Nations Juridical Yearbook 2013*	1	Completed
	Subtotal	7	
Law of the sea and ocean affairs (subprogramme 4)			
8.59	Law of the sea information circular	1	Streamlined. The discontinued output has been covered partially in other outputs, including those on the website of the Division
8.59 (a) (ii) (b)	The first global integrated marine assessment	1	Completed
	Subtotal	2	
	Total	9	